

1 tain of the less desirable components found in tobacco smoke
than the smoke which results from the usual reconstituted
tobaccos or the smoke which results from natural tobacco.

5 My invention comprises using, as a base for re-
constituted tobacco sheets, a gauze or web of cellulose
which has been treated in such a way that its combustion and
pyrolysis characteristics are modified. This modification
is evidenced by a reduction in the static burning rate of
the resulting product, as will be discussed in more detail
10 below.

Cotton (cellulose) gauze will burst into flame,
under ordinary conditions, when it is ignited. By appro-
propriate lowering of the burning rate of the cellulose, for
example, by oxidizing the cellulose or by the application of
15 certain flameproofing agents to the cellulose, or by impreg-
nating the cellulose with tobacco solubles, the web of trea-
ted cellulose can be combined, as will be described in more
detail below, with tobacco parts to make a reconstituted to-
bacco product which will glow or burn at a rate similar to
20 the burning rate of ordinary tobacco filler.

The lowering of the burning rate of the cellulose
web to be employed in accordance with the present invention,
should be such that the static burning rate of a cigarette
produced in accordance with the present invention, and in-
25 cluding the treated cellulose in combination with tobacco
in the amounts specified below, will be no more than 2 milli-

1 meters per minute. The static burning rate is the burning
rate, without any puffing, of a standard size cigarette
and is defined as the millimeters of tobacco statically
burned per minute, when the test cigarette is burned in a
5 controlled draft cabinet. By comparison, the static burning
rate of commercially available cigarettes is approximately
4 to 5 mm. per minute.

10 While an excess of the treating reagent may be
employed to reduce the static burning rate of the cellulose
even further below the 2 mm. per limit level, it is pre-
ferred that only sufficient reagent be employed to decrease
the static burning rate to approximately 2 mm. per minute.

15 Particulate tobacco, for example, tobacco which
has been pulverized and which has been homogenized in water,
or tobacco which has received an enzyme treatment in accord-
ance with the teachings of U. S. Patent 3,240,214, or to-
bacco which has been slurried with an added binder, is applied
to said gauze. The tobacco material may be applied to one or
both sides of the base gauze by rolls, by a spray, or by a
20 dip, after which the resulting sheet is dried.

Such products have been found to be self-supporting
even before drying. They can be cut into sheets for shred-
ding into filler for smoking articles or rolled for use as
cigar binder. They have also been found to have the strength
25 to permit shredding, blending, cigarette making and any
other necessary handling. They have good filling power,

Case No. 582-520

CLAIMS TO BE ADDED

Attached hereto are claims from the original draft
for reference.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet comprising a matrix of (treated) cellulose, said treated ^{new run for} cellulose having a burning rate which is at least 2 mm/min ~~lower than untreated cellulose~~, and from 2 to 20 parts by weight of particulate tobacco per part of said ~~treated~~ cellulose.
2. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 1, wherein said matrix is a treated cellulose gauze.
3. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 1, wherein said treated cellulose is oxidized cellulose.
4. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 1, wherein said treated cellulose is cellulose which has been treated with a fire-proofing agent.
5. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 1, wherein said treated cellulose is cellulose which has been treated with an aqueous extract of tobacco to lower its burning rate.
6. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 1, wherein said treated cellulose is cellulose which has been treated with an alcoholic extract of tobacco to lower its burning rate.
7. The reinforced reconstituted tobacco sheet of claim 2, wherein said treated cellulose is oxidized cellulose.

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